

# Staff Congress.....At a Glance



February 4, 2013

## Chair Report: Aaron Gay

- ◆ The Executive Council met on January 31, 2013 and discussed committee activity. Several items came up during this discussion that will be routed to the appropriate committee before being introduced in session.
- ◆ The President's Leadership Council has not met.
- ◆ The Staff Congress newsletter should be sent to all constituents every month. Each representative received a constituent list in July. Chair Gay indicated he had contacted all new employees and sent copies of the newsletters to them. Chair Gay will add new employees to the current constituent contact list and will forward the updated lists to representatives.
- ◆ The "Are We Making Progress?" data has been completed. Although Faculty Senate meets more often than Staff Congress, they are planning to call a special meeting at which Jill Ratliff and Erin Wright will present the "Are We Making Progress?" data. A similar special session will be called for Staff Congress for the same presentation of data, so watch for the notification.

## Vice-Chair Report: Shannon Harr

- ◆ Vice-Chair Harr updated Staff Congress on the website work that still continues. Communication and Marketing (COMA) have experienced turnover that directly affects migration to the Portal. Vice-Chair Harr expects an update soon and will relay information to representatives as soon as it is made available. Currently, Staff Congress minutes are still accessible on the Staff Congress website available through the MSU webpage.

### OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to address at this meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Credentials and Election Committee Chair Lora Pace brought forth a motion to elect Ray (Vernon) Perry as a Staff Congress Representative in the Service Maintenance category. The motion passed and Mr. Perry will begin fulfilling Staff Congress duties during the March 2013 meeting.**

### Upcoming Events

**Part-Time/Temporary Workflow Training**  
9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.  
Riggle Room, ADUC

**Wednesday, February 20th**



**MSU OPEN HOUSE**



**Saturday, March 2nd**

**Staff Congress Meeting (1:00 p.m.)**  
Riggle Room

**Monday, March 4th**



**Professional Development: Moving Forward After Change**  
8:30 a.m.—noon ADUC, Room 312  
**Leading Effective Teams**  
1:00 p.m.—4:30 p.m. ADUC, Room 312

**Tuesday, Feb. 26th**

**Tuesday, Feb. 26th**

### Items of Interest

**To submit a confidential, anonymous staff concern, please click here:**

**[STAFF CONCERNS FORM](#)**

For a complete listing of upcoming Professional Development opportunities and to register for an upcoming session, please visit the

**[Human Resources Website !!!](#)**

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Benefits & Compensation Committee: Committee Chair Joel Pace

>Committee Chair Joel Pace had no report to submit at this time.  
>Phil Gniot will give a presentation to Staff Congress. Mr. Gniot's presentation will contain a comparison of employee benefits of MSU, comparable universities, and local businesses (see Human Resources Report, next page).

### Credentials & Elections Committee: Committee Chair Lora Pace

>Committee Chair Lora Pace indicated Ray

(Vernon) Perry has been identified as a staff member who is interested in serving on Staff Congress to represent the Service Maintenance category. A vote will be brought before Staff Congress in New Business to determine if Mr. Perry will serve.

>The Credentials and Election Committee will meet in February to put election materials together. No meeting date has been set as of today.

### Green Committee: Committee Chair Benji Bryant

>Committee Chair Benji Bryant indicated

the Green Committee met on January 18th to discuss long-term and broad goals of the committee.

>Green Committee meeting scheduled for February 15th.

### Staff Issues Committee: Committee Chair Kenna Allen

>Committee Chair Allen indicated the majority of the Staff Concerns submitted were in relation to the benefit card employees receive through Tristar. Mr. Gniot commented the issue occurred when the vendor operating the benefit card was changed by the plan administrator and the new vendor experienced unplanned technical difficulties.

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## Staff Congress

*In order to create a stronger bond within the staff, to promote cooperation among the administration, faculty, students, and staff at Morehead State University, we, the staff of this university, do establish a representative body to be known as the Staff Congress.*

**We're on the web!**  
Staff Congress

### ITEMS OF INTEREST:

Around 116 students attended MSU Open House on Saturday, February 2nd! This was a successful Open House despite the winter weather!  Go Eagles!

### SAFETY FORUM SCHEDULE

Wednesday, February 13th at the following locations:

8:00 a.m.—9:00 a.m. Reed Hall Auditorium, Room 419

3:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. Center for Health, Education, and Research (CHER), Room 102D

Thursday, February 14th

8:00 a.m.—9:00 a.m. Smith Booth Hall (Space Science Center), Room 117

Friday, February 15th

8:00 a.m.—9:00 a.m. Breckinridge Hall, Room 002

11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Rader Hall, Room 111

3:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. Bert Combs Building, Kibbey Room 109

## COMMITTEE REPORTS, CONTINUED

### Staff Issues Committee: Committee Chair Kenna Allen

>Chair Gay, Vice-Chair Harr, and Committee Chair Allen met with the University of Kentucky Professional Development team to develop spring professional development topics and set dates. The team also plans to meet with Human Resources to further discuss spring professional development sessions. As the schedule is currently planned, there will be one day per month for February, March, and April where two professional development sessions will be offered. A paper flyer and email will be forthcoming to pass on to Representative's constituents lists.

### Staff Regent Report: Todd Thacker

> There will be a Board of Regents retreat on February 25th and 26th that will focus on the relationship between the President and the Board of Regents.

>Next Board of Regents meeting will be in March 2013.

>There will be power cut to parts of campus during Spring Break.

### Human Resources Report: Mr. Phill Gniot, Human Resources Director

> Mr. Gniot gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining a benefits comparison between MSU, other Kentucky Universities, St. Claire Regional Medical Center, SRG Global (Guardian), and the Rowan County Board of Education. Click here for the full PowerPoint Presentation: [BENEFIT COMPARISON](#)

>VP Beth Patrick indicated a compensation model for faculty and staff is currently in development and open forums will be held to discuss the model in late February or early March. Identification of resources to fund and support the initiative will be an important part of the task.

### Cabinet Report: Ms. Beth Patrick

>VP Patrick reported there will be construction of Intramural Soccer practice fields on the east end of campus at the old Gilley Apartment site. The fields should be finished by late spring and are being financed by student recreation fees.

>The Cabinet is developing a 6-year capital plan, which is required by statute every two years. The plan will detail prioritization and funding sources and is due April 15, 2013. MSU will need legislative authorization before any projects can be initiated on campus.

>General Assembly has introduced a new bill which could possibly provide agency authorization for Mignon Hall renovations. If authorized, these renovations would be funded by Housing Rental Rates.

>During Convocation in the fall, security issues were discussed. As a result, there has been a campus-wide check to make sure all classroom doors can be locked. Discussion regarding expanded video surveillance equipment and MSU ID card exterior door access to all facilities is continuing. Although MSU has an audio alert system, it can only be heard if students, faculty, or staff are outdoors; however, there is conversation of expanding the audible alert system to include computer messages or texts when alerts are issued of any type to the campus community. MSU is pursuing grant funds through Homeland Security for these projects.

>The Assistant VP of Facilities and Assistant VP of Technology positions have been posted and will close in February.

>RFPs are out in reference to campus network infrastructure, new computer vendor, an architect/engineer to develop a master plan, and housing needs. If possible, and external vendor who would bring equity would be preferable so MSU will not have to borrow funds.

## “ARE WE MAKING PROGRESS?” Survey Results Now Available

The MSU community was recently notified in an email from President Andrews the “Are We Making Progress?” survey data has been completed and is now available for review.

Interested faculty and staff members may view the “Are We Making Progress?” data on the President’s Leadership Council website.

As stated in his mass email, President Andrews plans to discuss the “Are We Making Progress?” report with the President’s Leadership Council on February 13th.

In addition, President Andrews is asking vice presidents, deans, and department chairs to conduct meetings/forums within their respective areas to discuss the report with their faculty and staff members.

To view the “Are We Making Progress?” survey results, click the following link:

[“Are We Making Progress?”](#)